

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
July 24, 2015

The City of Clewiston is currently accepting nominations for the Outstanding Community Service Award for 2015. If you know of someone who you feel deserves this honor, please stop by City Hall and pick up a nomination form. We will accept nominations until August 7, 2015.

Dates to Remember:

July 29, 2015 – City Commission Budget Workshop
July 30, 2015 – City Commission Budget Workshop

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- The City Commission met on Monday, July 20th to discuss the final development order for Hendry County Non-Profit Housing, Inc. (Area Housing Commission of LaBelle, Clewiston and Hendry County) to construct a 14 building, 50 unit subdivision at 1044 West Ventura Avenue (next to the Sweetwater Apartments). They voted unanimously to approve.
- The Florida Community Health Center, Inc. submitted a request to relocate an easement at 312 West Ventura and 315 West Trinidad so that they can build an addition on the west side of the building and expand their parking area. The Commission approved with conditions: work is to be completed within one year, the water and telephone costs for relocation will be paid by the owner, the owner will work with the Utilities Department to move the utility poles and the owner will provide conduit.
- Ordinance No. 2015-02 on final reading (amendments to the Comprehensive Plan) was approved unanimously with the assurance that the map attached shows correctly that area 4 is not changed to multi-family. Adoption includes US27 Corridor and downtown districts. Staff will be working with the Planning & Zoning Board to develop new standards and recommend improvements for these new districts.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- E-books launching !!! Next Friday, July 31 at 10:00 a.m. we will have a soft launching of this program. Please be sure you have a Library card and PIN to get your free e-books.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- Officers on Patrol discovered a man using a sledge hammer to knock a hole in the back wall of Yosvanni's Market on Francisco. The suspect fled across the street and through Fairgrounds Trailer Park. After a brief foot chase, officers captured and subdued him. The Belle Glade resident was on probation for Armed Robbery and Attempted Murder.

- A suspicious person report on Alverde Tuesday resulted in the arrest of two suspects in the burglary of a residence in the 300 Block of East Alverde. A third identified suspect remains at large. The stolen property was recovered.
- The investigation into the Home Invasion Robbery from two weeks ago is steadily progressing. Detectives are awaiting DNA test results.
- An argument over a girl sparked a shooting at the Boat Basin in the early morning hours Monday. At least two shots were fired at a vehicle as it fled the area. Detectives worked collecting evidence and witness statements from 1:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Monday afternoon. At approximately 3:15 p.m., the two victims came in and declined to press charges against the two suspects.
- **The Boat Basin area will be closed from dusk till dawn for the foreseeable future. We will allow fishermen, construction & delivery workers, Corps of Engineers etc. proper access, but no gatherings or loitering will be permitted.**
- Several juveniles have been picked up this week for violation of curfew. They are detained until a parent or guardian can pick them up.
- A significant residential burglary on East Del Monte was discovered last Friday. Due to the owners being out of town, the initial investigation was somewhat hampered. CID has the case now and is working diligently with the victims.
- Following is a brief weekly synopsis:
 - 1066** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 617** Complaints Investigated
 - 20** Arrests Made
 - 13** Traffic Citations Issued
 - 9** City Ordinance Violations Issued
 - 20** Code Enforcement Violations issued
 - 9** Rental Inspections Conducted
 - 68** Merchant Escorts Provided
 - 22** Alarms Responded To
 - 4** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control: Trap identification information came in last week and showed the source of the mosquitoes causing such a high count in trap 4 (North West Section) are coming off of floating vegetation in canals, ponds and lakes. An inspection of canals inside the city limits show they are clear. Therefore, these mosquitoes are migrating into this area from outside our perimeter.
- Street Maintenance: (1) The kiosk at the Clewiston Inn and at the Boat Basin have been painted. Sean is still looking into getting custom maps of the Lake highlighting “points of interest” in Clewiston. (2) The wheels & tracks on the ATHEY wagon display on Central Ave. have been painted again. They were scratched up during delivery. (3) Work on a “public parking” area on North Deane Duff started Monday. Staff hauled excavated spoil away and stock piled it for future use. (4) The grass and select plants at the City Hall are being removed. New sod and a small amount of landscaping upgrades are planned. (5) We provided a water tank and man to work with crews from U.S. Sugar planting trees at the Middle School.

- US27 Rebuild: Thirty eight days into the project and everything is going well. We have not had any complaints from local merchants or residents. Some minor damage was reported to the contractor and they quickly responded to the issue. They also started the parking area on North Deane Duff on Monday morning. The City provided a dump truck and driver to haul away the spoil.
- Boat Basin Project: One bid was submitted and after review, it met all requirements of the project. The Commission awarded the bid to Weekley Asphalt Paving.
- West Pasadena Project: Bids for the drainage and paving are due at 2:00 p.m. in City Hall on August 13.
- Civic Park Rebuild: (1) Work continues in the monument area in the Civic Park. Crews are preparing to pour the foundation and fluted columns, as well as the footer for the retaining wall bench. The Elks Club has found a person to build the hand rails at the entrance and report that work will start soon.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- Thank you to the Utilities Dept. for the staff and bucket truck and assisting Summer Camp with their “science experiments” last Friday. You guys are GREAT!
- Sports Complex staff has completed the staging and preparations for aerating and fertilizing the game fields. The fields have been mowed and irrigation heads marked.
- The Fire Dept. will assist “washing” in 6 goalie boxes at Sugarland Sports Complex Soccer Fields next week after the aeration and fertilization is completed.
- The C.S. Mott Pool and James Mason Pool will extend its hours of operation for community swim beginning Monday, July 27th. Both pools will be open from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday – Saturday and 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Sundays.
- CIT’s will report on Monday July 27th at 9:00 a.m. to help clean-up, put up and evaluate equipment before putting in storage for next year’s camp.
- Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation:
 - “Lake Okeechobee Pontoon Boat Excursions” for those new kids registered in 2nd session Summer Camp
 - “Library Adventures” where each child in Summer Camp took a tour of the Library and received their very own Library card.
 - “Clewiston Museum Tour” Camp Crayon toured the Museum and got to hunt for fossils and practice their roping skills with Mr. Wilson on Wednesday.
 - Camp Fun-A-Rama had the opportunity to tour the Museum and take a ride on the tour bus with Mr. Wilson around Clewiston and the surrounding area on Thursday.
 - Summer Camp “Science” day on Thursday afternoon.
 - ”Summer Camp Color Olympics” and End of Camp Party/Water Day on Friday.
 - Co-ed Adult Softball League on field #9 at Sugarland Sports Complex on Tuesday July 21st and Thursday July 23rd.
 - Adult Men’s Basketball Leagues at Harlem Gym on Tuesday July 21st and Thursday July 23rd.
 - July 25th – Family Reunion at Youth Center from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 - July 25th – Birthday Party at Beardsley Room from 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.

- If you are interested in participating in an adult co-ed volleyball league this summer or youth flag football and AAU Track and Field during the late summer, please contact Andre at 983-1492.
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- The Electric crew straightened up the transformer at the Sewer Plant and also street poles on W. C. Owen.
- The Electric crew has been cutting trees on Lopez for three (3) days
- There was an electrical outage at the elementary school which the Electric crew repaired.
- The Electric crew is working on beautifying the Civic Park (off of Hwy 27).
- The Water crew fixed pipe and pump at the KFC lift station and repaired four (4) water main breaks this week.
- The Water crew also helped South Shore Water make a water tap and worked on the main lift station.
- The Water Crew worked on repairing the fire back flow at Palm Terrance for two nights.
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION!
Visit our office today.